

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
J&R Tire Fire - Removal Polrep
Final Removal Polrep

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



466902



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #3
Final
J&R Tire Fire
E13514
Hoopeston, IL
Latitude: 40.4625036 Longitude: -87.6715938

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From: Bradley Benning, OSC
Date: 7/10/2013
Reporting Period: 6/26 13 to 7/3/13

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5V4	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:	OPA-0126	Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA/OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	6/19/2013	Start Date:	6/19/2013
Demob Date:	7/3/2013	Completion Date:	7/3/2013
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	Yes
FPN#:	E13514	Reimbursable Account #:	2013HR05FHXHR303D91Z5MG

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

J&R Tire facility operates as a tire recycling business and an estimated 30,000 tires were contained in the facility in the form of solid tires and shredded tires. Tires were stored throughout the plant and outside along the west perimeter near the railroad tracks

1.1.2.1 Location

103 E. Maple St., Hoopeston, IL (Vermilion County- IL)

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

On June 19, 2013, at approximately 05:21 hours the J&R Tire facility located in Hoopeston, IL caught fire and continued to burn throughout the day and night. The facility was fully engulfed and is a complete loss. A large smoke plume initially traveled west from the fire, forcing evacuation of residents due west of the facility. Fire water contaminated with oil and ash entered local storm sewers and discharged to a long retention ditch directly south of the facility. Initial reports indicated that an unknown quantity of contaminated water entered a tributary of the Vermillion River and caused a substantial fish kill. The outfall from the retention ditch had not been blocked until several hours into the incident. Oil and ash were also observed in the retention ditch which had a capacity of 4 million gallons. IEPA was first to respond and requested air monitoring assistance from US EPA

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

USEPA arrived onsite and joined the Incident Command structure to assist with air monitoring throughout the residential neighborhoods.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

IEPA arrived at the site at approximately 08:00 on 06/19/13 and later requested air monitoring support from US EPA. Local fire responders from the surrounding area began fighting the fire with water and heavy construction equipment. Run-off water was not initially contained in the retention ditch resulting in a discharge of contaminated water into the Vermillion River. After IEPA arrived the ditch south of the fire site was blocked with soil for temporary containment.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

On June 19, 2013, US EPA mobilize START contractors to the site to begin air monitoring and documentation. START conducted routine monitoring through the evacuated zone and downwind of the fire. Area Raes were deployed around the fire and moved based on the trajectory of the plume. A nursing home and residential homes were monitored inside if requested by the owners. US EPA requested that the RP take immediate action to address the contained fire water to prevent further releases into the river. The RP stated company had insurance but never committed funding for the action. At 2000 hours on 6/19/13 USEPA issued Notice of Federal Interest and immediately issued the Notice of Federal Assumption as the RP refused to take removal action requested by the OSC. USEPA began to mobilize ERRS contractors to the site to collect free product on the run-off water and initiate treatment of the run-off water utilizing a series of sand, bag and carbon filters prior to discharge. The OSC will waive the NPDES Permit requirement for discharge, but comply with a State ARARs.

6/20/13 - Fire fighting continues, smoke plume still moving to west/northwest. Continue air monitoring runs will identify mostly particulate increases. Evacuation is now voluntary. Fire Dept. estimates over 3 million gal. of water has been put on the fire, runoff goes to the storm system and also into the sanitary system. Treatment system and running, estimate 300,000 gal. per day can be treated. CSX train line is open but at reduced speed, they hired CTEH to monitor the line while the fire is still burning.

6/21/13 - Fire continues to smolder with several flare-ups during the day. Fire dept. is making their way into the structure to better hit the hot spots. Air monitoring continues. Issue of off-site fire debris that deposited in residential area is being addressed, samples were taken from yards and building debris and ran for asbestos. Results identified 4 of 11 yard samples were positive for ACM, and the building samples were clean at this time. Water treatment continued with no issues.

6/22-23/13 - OSC McGuire covered the site over the weekend. Water treatment continued although Saturday brought up to 1.5 inches of rain, which refill the retention pond. Current estimate is now over 4 million gal. of water that needs treatment. Based on the presence of ACM, asbestos monitoring was conducted Sunday, 5 samples were positioned around the plume and ran for the day, results are due next week.

6/24/13 - Fire continues to smolder with occasional flare-ups. Air monitoring continues primarily when large flare-ups break out. Two vac trucks were brought back to assist the WWTP with removing fire water that was diverted to a million gal. clarifier for holding, water is being treated with the other fire water. IEPA has requested that USEPA collect the fire debris in the residential areas due to the presence of ACM. Spoke with the RP representative and they were not capable of conducting the work. CERCLA Task order was issued to ER to recover the fire debris, crews will begin arriving tomorrow. IEPA is working on a Fact Sheet to distribute and on Facebook with information about Tire fires.

6/25/13 - Fire continues to smolder with minimal flare-ups, air monitoring is now minimal only when needed. Asbestos sample results for the air monitoring were all negative at detection limits. Water treatment continues around the clock with no problems. ER crew is preparing for debris pickup today.

6/26/13 - ER crew continues debris recovery, majority of the ACM debris appears to be in the neighborhoods west of the facility. Water treatment continues, but heavy rain today brought the retention pond back up. Fact sheets generated by IEPA were delivered to the Mayor's office today for distribution in town. PRP is negotiating with the State to take over water treatment activity, roughly 2 million gallons of water treated to date.

6/27/13 - Water treatment and ACM debris pickup continue with no issues. Vac trucks will only skim the clarifier tank at the WWTP, so as to concentrate treatment of the retention pond water first. The second water sample indicated slightly elevated organics, likely the carbon is being saturated. Plan to resample discharge water tomorrow. No information on the PRP taking over response actions. Fire continues to smolder with occasional flare ups.

6/28/13 - Anticipate to finish ACM debris pickup by end of today, crew will demobilize tomorrow AM. Water treatment continues. OSC Emmanuilo will cover site activities over the weekend.

6/29-30/13 - OSC Emmanuol onsite, water treatment continue, approximately 800K gallons treated, but heavy over the weekend filled the retention pond. Fire continues to smolder.

7/1/13 - Due to continuous dilution from rainfalls the retention pond water appears to be improving, no visible oil is apparent on the surface at the recovery point. Analytical still indicates very low levels of organics. After discussions with ERB management an end point seems appropriate as no oil is apparent on the water and we will limit the Agency's OPA authority to continue operations. USEPA will stop water treatment on 7/3/13, notification was made to IEPA.

7/2/13 - IEPA has agreed to take over the water treatment operations under their emergency contract provision and will allow the PRP to initiate actions to put out the remaining hot spots at the facility. Sample of the raw water in the retention pond was collected and results will be available tomorrow.

7/3/13 - Water treatment continued until noon, IEPA's contractor (Bodine) will take over utilizing Siemens as the Site operator. Bodine will work to assume contracts with the equipment owners Rain for Rent and Baker Tan which may take 2-3 days. Treatment system will likely be down through the Holiday weekend. Vac truck will be demobed at noon today and recovered ACM will be stored in roll-off onsite until disposal is arranged. ERRS contractor will demobe today.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

US EPA will consider enforcement actions for cost recovery purposes.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Fire water runoff	Liquid	5 million gallons	NA	onsite carbon treatment	
Non-friable ACM	solid	10 yards			Republic Service

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Close-out activities and final cost accounting. Action Memorandum for CERCLA work.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

No additional response activities are planned other than disposal of the ACM waste.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Action Memorandum for CERCLA ACM action.

2.2.2 Issues

No issues

2.3 Logistics Section

NA

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

This is now a dual response under OPA for the Oil/Water run-off and CERCLA for the ACM.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS -OPA	\$130,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$10,000.00	7.69%
ERRS - CERCLA	\$25,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$5,000.00	20.00%
OPA	\$42,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$2,000.00	4.76%
CERCLA	\$3,500.00	\$3,300.00	\$200.00	5.71%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$200,500.00	\$183,300.00	\$17,200.00	8.58%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor. Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

No injuries have been reported

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

NA

2.5.3 Information Officer

Conducted interview with local news stations. IEPA is assisting with drafting a Fact Sheet

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Hoopeston Fire Dept.
USEPA
IEPA

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Numerous assisting Fire Departments
Hoopeston Police
State Police

IEMA
County EMA
CSX Railroad
Cteh
Summit Environmental

4. Personnel On Site

EPA OSC- 1
START-1
ERRS-10

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

www.epaossc.org/JRTireFire

6.2 Reporting Schedule

No further reports anticipated

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.